

Introduced by Senator Anderson

February 27, 2015

An act to amend Section 411 of the Food and Agricultural Code, relating to food and agriculture.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 656, as introduced, Anderson. Food and agriculture: production forecasts.

Existing law establishes the Department of Food and Agriculture and vests with the department various duties and obligations related to regulation of the agricultural industry of the state. Existing law requires the department to supply the Department of Water Resources with a specified forecast that estimates the amount of production of food, fiber, livestock, and other farm products, as specified.

This bill would make nonsubstantive changes in the provisions relating to that forecast.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 411 of the Food and Agricultural Code
- 2 is amended to read:
- 3 411. (a) The Department of Food and Agriculture shall supply
- 4 the Department of Water Resources with a forecast that estimates
- 5 the amount of production of food, fiber, livestock, and other farm
- 6 products.

1 (b) As part of the forecast, the Department of Food and
2 Agriculture's assumptions shall be based upon 20-year estimates
3 that include, but are not limited to, the following data:

4 (1) Land use conversion rates and the amount of land *that is*
5 available for agricultural production.

6 (2) The growing need for food, fiber, livestock and other farm
7 products as the state's and the nation's populations grow.

8 (3) Implementation of irrigation technology and other on-farm
9 water conservation measures.

10 (4) Advances in crop yields and production techniques.

11 (5) Alternate uses of crops.

12 (c) ~~The department~~ *Department of Food and Agriculture* shall
13 include an additional table in the forecast that estimates the
14 agricultural water needs based upon food security considerations
15 that include, at a minimum, *all of* the following:

16 (1) Population growth estimates.

17 (2) Production of farm products sufficient to feed the state's
18 population, as well as continue to provide at least 25 percent of
19 the nation's table food.

20 (3) Production necessary to meet the growth in export markets.

21 (d) To the extent feasible, the Department of Food and
22 Agriculture may cooperate with the Department of Finance, the
23 University of California, and other institutions and organizations
24 in obtaining information for the forecasts.

25 (e) The Department of Food and Agriculture shall furnish the
26 forecast to the Department of Water Resources for estimating
27 related water usage, as well as to the Chairs of the Assembly
28 Committee on Agriculture, the Assembly Committee on Water,
29 Parks, and Wildlife, and the Senate Committee on Agriculture and
30 Water Resources. The Department of Water Resources shall include
31 this information in Bulletin 160.